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Akron to May 13th 1884

Prof Lewis Watson

My dear Sir

Prof Farlow has today returned my specimens & informed me that he cannot from the material certainly identify them. In the circumstances I am somewhat at a loss. After the information contained in my paper last I am unwilling to further intrude upon him yet I want the aid of some one who is more critically familiar with the genus than myself. Can you help me recommend some one who will take the trouble to examine carefully what are but poor specimens & let me know the result?

I asked Prof. F. if they belonged to *S. delicatissima* but he tells me that the part of *S. d.* is "unknown according to the book" & mine is in fruit. He suggests *S. tenuissima*, etc. but I can find nothing about it.

His answer however compares me in my opinion that it is a species not corresponding very closely

got all with my three yet described from the
N. Am. flora.

Am I right or not in believing that all species
of *S.* having the two rows of small leaves above
are then of an extralimital type? The specimens
concerning which I ask were gathered during a
short Southern trip & puzzled me not a little in
consequence of the peculiarity which I had previously
known only in greenhouse plants. I have no access
to any work on the Southern Selaginellas if there
is such a book & cannot tell if any any species
of this type of *S.* is known there.

I am really sorry then to intrude upon you
but trusting that you will recognize my diffi-
culty & excuse it remain

Yours very truly

W. B. Layton

Can you tell me the character of *S. tenuissima*, etc.

Chapman